What 22 Is Claimed Is:

~~Claims~~

1. Use of an amphipathic compound comprising a lipophilic group derived from a sterol linked to a cationic group, for the production of a vaccine composition.

2. A use ~~Use~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that the lipophilic group is a cholesterol derivative.

3. A use ~~Use~~ according to Claim 1 ~~either of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the cationic group is a quaternary ammonium or an amine which can be protonated.

4. A use ~~Use~~ according to Claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the lipophilic group is attached to the cationic group via an ester, ether, amide or carbamoyl link.

5. A use ~~Use~~ according to Claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the lipophilic group is separated from the cationic group by a branched or unbranched alkyl chain comprising from 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

6. A use ~~Use~~ according to Claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the amphipathic compound is selected from the following compounds:

- cholesteryl-3β-carboxamidoethylenetrimethyl-ammonium iodide,

- cholesteryl-3β-carboxamidoethylenamine,

- cholesteryl-3β-oxysuccinamidoethylene-trimethylammonium iodide,

- 3β-[N-(N',N'-dimethylaminoethane)carbamoyl]-cholesterol,

- 3β-[N-(polyethylenamine)carbamoyl]cholesterol.

7. ~~Use~~ A use of 3β-[N-(N',N'-dimethylaminoethane)-carbamoyl]cholesterol for the production of a vaccine composition.

8. ~~Use~~ A use according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the amphipathic compound is combined with a neutral lipid.

9. ~~Use~~ A use according to Claim 8, characterized in that the proportion of neutral lipid combined is at least 20%.

10. ~~Use~~ A use according to ~~either of Claims 8 and 9~~ Claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the neutral lipid is dioleoylphosphatidylethanolamine (DOPE) or dioleoylphosphatidylcholine (DOPC).

11. ~~Use~~ A use according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the amphipathic compound is dispersed in an aqueous environment in the form of liposomes.

12. ~~Use~~ A use of an amphipathic compound comprising a lipophilic group derived from a sterol linked to a cationic group, as an adjuvant in the administration of a vaccine.

13. ~~Use~~ A use according to Claim 12, characterized in that the said amphipathic compound is 3β-[N-(N',N'-dimethyl-aminoethane)carbamoyl]cholesterol.

14. Use according to either of Claims 12 and 13, characterized in that the said amphipathic compound is combined with a neutral lipid.

15. Vaccine composition comprising at least one antigen, characterized in that it comprises, in addition, at least one amphipathic compound possessing a lipophilic group derived from a sterol linked to a cationic group.

16. Vaccine composition according to Claim 15, characterized in that the said lipophilic group is a cholesterol derivative.

17. Vaccine composition according to either of Claims 15 and 16, characterized in that the said amphipathic compound is 3β-[N-(N',N'-dimethyl-aminoethane)carbamoyl]cholesterol.

18. Vaccine composition according to one of Claims 15 to 17, characterized in that the said amphipathic compound takes the form of liposomes including at least one antigen.

19. Vaccine composition according to one of Claims 15 to 18, characterized in that the said amphipathic compound is combined with a neutral lipid.

20. Vaccine composition according to one of Claims 15 to 19, characterized in that it comprises at least one influenza virus antigen.

21. Method for inducing an immune response in a mammal, consisting in administering at least one antigen to the mammal, characterized in that it consists in administering, in addition, at least one amphipathic

compound comprising a lipophilic group derived from a sterol linked to a polar group.

22. ~~Method~~ A method according to Claim 21, characterized in that the said amphipathic compound is administered at the same time as the antigen.

23. ~~Method~~ A method according to ~~either of Claims 21 and 22~~ Claim 21 or 22, characterized in that the antigen is an influenza virus haemagglutinin.

24. ~~Product~~ A product containing at least one antigen and one amphipathic compound comprising a lipophilic group derived from a sterol linked to a cationic group, as a combination product for use simultaneously, separately or staggered over time in vaccination.

Rdd 22

Rdd C'